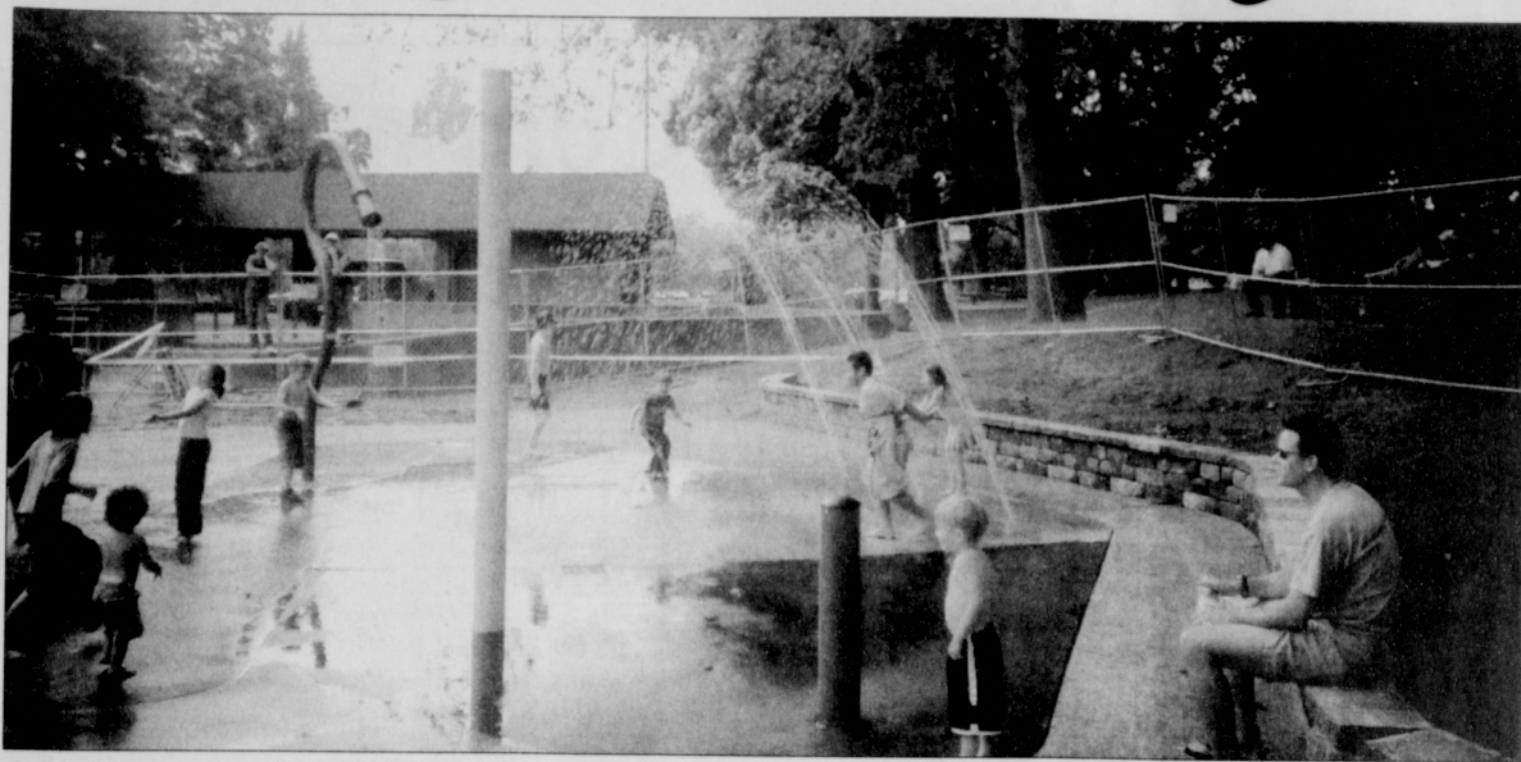


Splashing Around in Irving Park



Children enjoy a test run of the new water play area at Irving Park.

PHOTO BY LEE PERLMAN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Water structure awaits July 4th crowds

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

It was a sight this northeast Portland community had waited six years for: children playing in gentle jets of water coming at them from a multitude of directions.

Significantly, it was just a sneak preview. The Irving Park water feature was late for its June 18 grand opening. The plumbing and hollow sculptures that spray water in changing patterns like a small version of Waterfront Park's Salmon Springs Fountain had to be oper-

ated manually by a technician rather than by automatic switch.

But the fountain promises to be in complete working order and construction will be finished on some additional concrete paths and retaining walls by the this weekend's July 4th holiday.

The fountain was made possible by donations.

"Every contributor large and small helped make this a reality," said Stephen Doubleday, president of Irvington Community Association.

The water feature was proposed six years ago by Susan Hathaway-Marx, a member of the association board, and Mary Anne Cassin. The city had just closed all park wading pools, including the one in Irving Park, due to liability concerns. The shallow pools had to be supervised at all times and the Portland Parks Bureau lacked the money to pay for lifeguards.

Cassin and Hathaway-Marx thought the water feature would serve the same function, only better.

The project received \$10,000 from the neighborhood group's

treasury, a grant from the Parks Bureau, and contributions from Pacific Power, Safeway, New Seasons and Wild Oats, and well as other groups and individuals.

Those involved met their fundraising goals three times, only to receive new estimates that pushed the costs higher. At a critical moment ICA board member Jeff Jones stepped in and recruited a local resident and contractor, Patrick Flynn, who agreed to do the job. The community association dug deep into its treasury to ensure the costs would be covered.

Jefferson Design Committee Announced

Superintendent of Portland Public Schools Vicki Phillips has announced the names of a committee to study future options for Jefferson High School and two of its feeder middle schools.

The school board requested that Phillips put the committee together after many parents and students complained of plans to merge Jefferson with Tubman and Whitaker Middle Schools.

The Committee members are Sam Brooks, president of S. Brooks & Associates; Oregon State Sen. Margaret Carter; Jennifer Doncan, Jefferson High School teacher; Sandra Dvergsdal, Tubman Middle School teacher; Rey España, high school program manager for Native American Youth Association Family Center; Kevin Fuller, Bridge Builders; Vanessa Gaston, president & CEO, Urban League of Port-

land; Dr. Rev. W. G. Hardy Jr. pastor, Highland Church of God in Christ; Joyce Harris, Northwest Regional Education Laboratory director at Equity Center; Tony Hopson, president & CEO, Self-Enhancement, Inc.; Beverly Johnson, retired principal; Nate Jones, retired principal; Toye Jones, local parent; Joann Logan, Whitaker teacher; Damone Lowery, Whitaker student; Anastasia

Pfenning, Tubman student; Lorenzo Poe, Multnomah County Community Partnership director and past school board member; Stephanie Pringle, Jefferson teacher; April Roberts, local parent; Shereen Sherman, Jefferson student body president; Nancy Smith, community activist; and Glenda Walker, parent and Jefferson High School PTA president.

In the Neighborhood

Should the U.S. send a timetable for withdrawing troops from Iraq?



We should have had them out a long time ago, and shouldn't have gone in the first place. We went over there not knowing it's George's Bush' private agenda.
--Ray Monge

I think they need to come back now. We have lost enough lives over there.

--Robert Monge



They should take the troops out now. We don't have any business over there. It's all over oil. It's not our war to fight.
--Sally Howe

There needs to be time limit. I would like to see an exit plan within the next five years.

--Karissa Marquix



We don't need to be there at all. War is bad, I don't like it.
--Dan Moe

I think that Bush is a hypocrite and the war is all about the oil. He's doing Americans bad by sending people to die and to kill. It's white people trying to take over a foreign country. They need to leave as soon as possible.

--Eddie Leon



Auditor Releases Police Review

Officer rudeness common report complaint

A report on Portland's Independent Police Review Division was recently released by Portland City Auditor Gary Blackmer and the Director of the Independent Police Review Division Richard Rosenthal.

The IPR accepts complaints against police officers and oversees investigation and resolution, makes policy and training recommendations, and is involved in a variety of other efforts to improve

police service.

In 2004, IPR received 781 new complaints, an increase from complaints received in 2003. Officer rudeness was the most common complaint received, followed by excessive force, and unjustified behavior.

A new section of the IPR Annual Report discusses the number of complaints per officer in order to evaluate whether the actions of a small number of officers are responsible for a significant portion of citizen complaints.

The analysis shows that 10 officers were responsible for 15 percent of all complaints during a three year period. These complaints should have been flagged by the

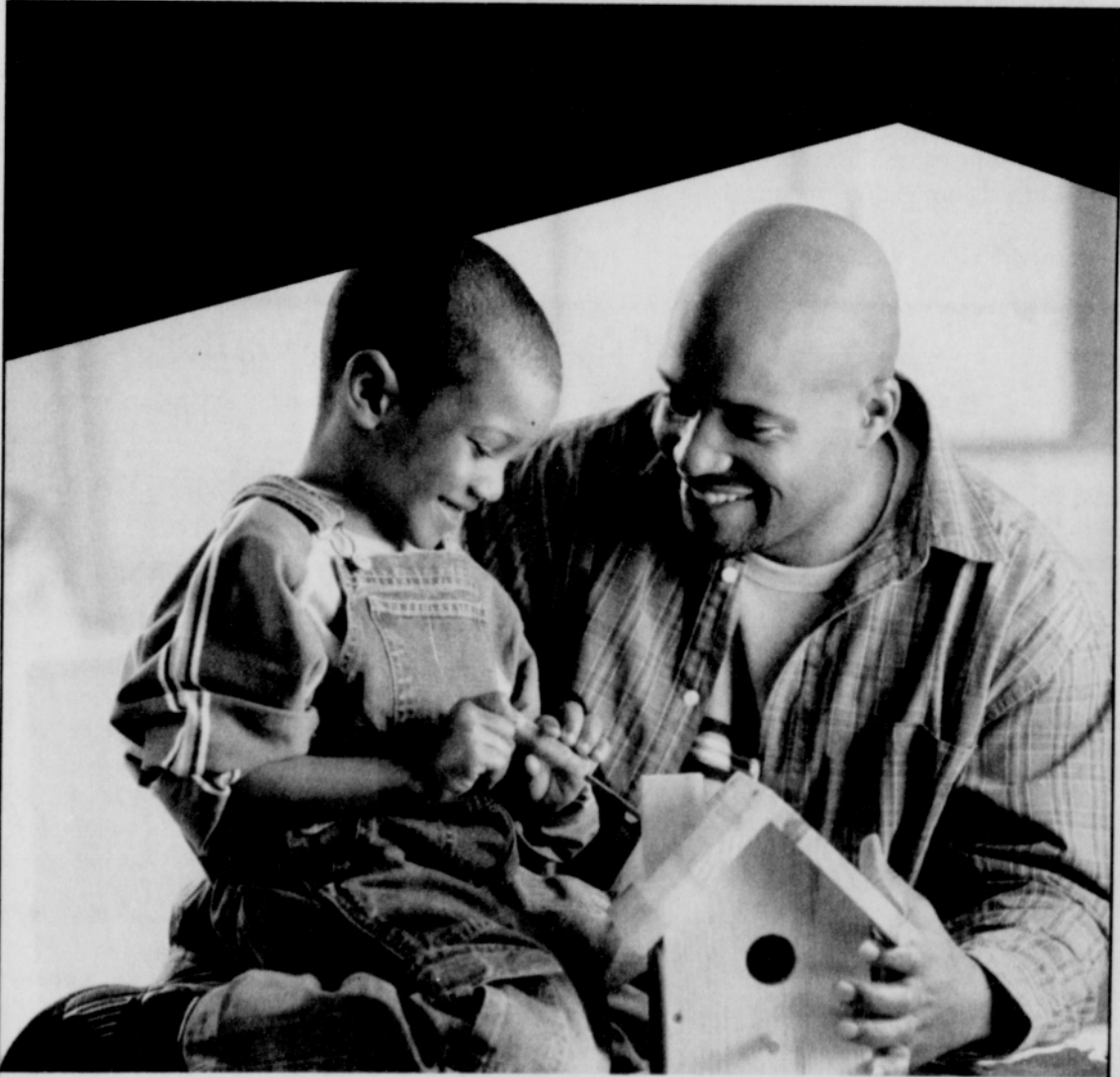
Bureau's Early Intervention System, yet the majority were not, Blackmer said.

The IPR is working with the Portland Police and to develop and implement a new system.

The IPR has also entered into a five-year contract with the Police Assessment Resource Center to review officer-involved shooting investigations, training, and policies on an annual basis.

Blackmer said a new process for handling tort claims alleging police misconduct has already been implemented.

More information can be found at www.portlandonline.com/auditor/ipr.



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TriMet to Raise Fares Again

Covers fuel, added service

Riding around town on the bus or Max line will mean digging a little further for pocket change soon, with fare increases across the board for the second time in a year.

Beginning Sept. 1, TriMet will hike its fares, partly in order to keep up with high fuel prices, which have risen to more than \$3

million of the agency's costs this year.

Most cash fares will increase by 10 cents and monthly passes will increase by \$4.

Buying a 2-Zone ticket will mean forking over \$1.50 daily, or \$55 for a monthly pass. All-Zone tickets will mean \$1.80 daily, \$66 monthly. Youth and students are looking at \$1.20 daily, while honored citizens go for 70 cents. Both of the latter groups will pay \$19 for a monthly pass. LIFT tickets will be \$1.45 daily,

\$38 monthly.

The budget for 2006 will include adding 39 new low-floor buses and 26 accessible transportation vehicles, increasing MAX transport capacity between the Beaverton Transport Center and Portland International Airport; and working on the I-205 and Portland Mall Light Rail Project.

"This budget keeps us moving forward on our regional rail system and helps us better respond to the swings in diesel prices," said TriMet General Manager Fred Hansen.

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